A legal framework for the geological storage of carbon dioxide

Polish Geological and Mining Law

CCS – prospecting and exploring of an underground carbon dioxide storage complex

Current legal status

- Licence (permit)
 for prospecting or exploring of an underground carbon dioxide storage complex
- Demonstration project
 quantity (volume) restrictions (limitation), strictly limited
 purposes (i.e. verifying safety, effectiveness and
 usefulness of application of the technology)
- Selected areas
 set out by the Regulation of the Minister of
 Environment*
- Priority right
 entrepreneur is entitled to apply for a mining usufruct
 to be granted to him with priority to others (within 3

Draft amendment

- Geological works plan
 for prospecting or exploring of an underground carbon
 dioxide storage complex
- Commercial project
 absence of quantity (volume) restrictions (limitation),
 broadly understood industrial purpose, in particular
 meeting Net Zero Industry Act objectives
- Revision of selected areas
 set out by the Regulation of the Minister of Environment*
- Exclusive right to apply for licence (within 5 years)



CCS – licence for underground carbon dioxide storage

Current legal status

CCS licence granting

 Licence for underground storage of carbon dioxide (environmental decision is required) Draft amendment

CCS licence granting

- Licence for underground storage of carbon dioxide (environmental decision is required)
- Licence for extracting of hydrocarbons from deposits combined with CO2 storage (environmental decision is required)

CCS – enhanced hydrocarbon recovery

Current legal status

Absence of regulation

Draft amendment

- The combination of enhanced hydrocarbon recovery (EHR) with geological storage of CO2 - amendment to the hydrocarbon licence
- The combination of enhanced hydrocarbon recovery (EHR) with geological storage of CO2 - based on hydrocarbon licence (environmental decision is required)

CCS – Duration

Current legal status

 concession for underground carbon dioxide storage shall be granted for a fixed period of time not less than 23 years and not longer than 50 years*

Draft amendment

- concession for underground carbon dioxide storage shall be granted for a fixed period of time not less than 23 years and not longer than 50 years*
- concession for the combination of extraction of hydrocarbons from a deposit with geological storage of CO2 for a fixed period of time not less than 30 years and not longer than 50 years*



• taking into consideration the obligation to carry out the monitoring of an underground carbon dioxide storage complex for a period no shorter than 20 years following the closure of an underground carbon dioxide storage site

CCS – Reduction of the administrative burden

Current legal status

Prospecting or exploring of an underground carbon dioxide storage complex:

- Mining usufruct
- Prospecting fee 130,60 PLN/sqkm (2023)
- Prospecting and exploring fee 261,20 PLN/sqkm (2023)

Draft amendment

Prospecting or exploring of an underground carbon dioxide storage complex:

- No mining usufruct
- No prospecting fee
- No prospecting and exploring fee

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